Procedures
Can I keep all of the repeating GROUP / ORDER values in PROC REPORT?

PROC REPORT is a hugely versatile reporting procedure and comes with a number of inbuilt features - for example when a column is defined as either GROUP or ORDER the procedure automatically suppresses the repetitious printing of the values.

While this is helpful in a report to assist with easily identifying groups of data, it can cause problems if the data is written to an external destination (e.g. Excel) where the repetition is necessary.

For example the following code generates a report and suppresses the values of the sex column:

```
proc report data = sashelp.class nowd ;
  column sex name age ;
  define sex / order ;
```

This produces a report as shown:

Sex	Name	Age
F	Alice	13
	Barbara	13
	Carol	14
	Jane	12
	Janet	15
	Joyce	11
	Judy	14
	Louise	12
	Mary	15
M	Alfred	14
	Henry	14
	James	12

To keep all sex values, it is necesssary to use a COMPUTE-ENDCOMP block and a dummy

variable. Each time the sex column displays a value it is stored in the dummy variable, and whenever the column is blank, the dummy variable is used to re-populate the column.

The code now appears as follows:

```
proc report data = sashelp.class nowd ;
  column sex name age ;
  define sex / order ;
  compute sex / character ;
    if sex ne '' then dummy = sex ;
    else sex = dummy ;
  endcomp ;
run ;
```

which generates the desired report:

Sex	Name	Age
F	Alice	13
F	Barbara	13
F	Carol	14
F	Jane	12
F	Janet	15
F	Joyce	11
F	Judy	14
F	Louise	12
F	Mary	15
M	Alfred	14
M	Henry	14
M	James	12

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